



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY  
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Mr. Blaine may be a very smart man, according to the prevailing opinion respecting smart Congressmen, but his speech yesterday certainly did not show it, and, compared with the distinguished efforts of those who in times gone by have reflected honor and renown upon American oratory and statesmanship, it fills a most inopportune place in the annals of his country. Though delivered with all the excellent assurance for which the author is noted, and with a loudness and distinctness essential to the qualification of a speaker, and was permeated with a quotation from Macaulay, it contained not a single sentence that was remarkable either for originality of idea or expression, or that was in the slightest degree above inferior mediocrity. It was a narrow minded and transparent attempt to keep alive sectionalism for selfish purposes, and, when contrasted with his speech delivered at the McCulloch reception in Washington, last Saturday night, affords one of the most extraordinary instances of rapid tergiversation ever known. If the speech itself did not show the inferiority of the man who delivered it, Mr. Blaine's pettifoggish attempt to trip Mr. Thurman on the use of the word "property," when that gentleman said that "property, intelligence and education would rule in the South as they did everywhere else," was sufficient to exhibit in glaring colors to every reasonable man.

Herr Busch, in his interesting book on the life and character of Prince Bismarck, says that General Philip H. Sheridan, when doing one day with the Prince, remarked that the civil population in an enemy's country had no right to expect any clemency from an invading army, and that, for his part, he "would leave them nothing but their eyes, with which they might weep over the miseries of war." These are the sentiments of a civilized warrior, and are eminently consistent with the General's assertion that he had so devastated the valley of the Shenandoah "that a crow in flying over it would have to carry its ration." They are also by no means incompatible with the sentiment of a man who mercilessly slaughtered the women and children of the Pagan Indian tribe; who made gallant charge upon the bald headed members of the Louisiana legislature when sitting in their state house; who stigmatized all the democrats of Louisiana as bastards, and who, when asked about his responsibility for such actions, responded, "I ain't afraid." The more that is known about General Sheridan the lower he falls in the estimation of all men whose opinions are formed from reliable data, and which are consequently worth anything.

Judge Rives, of the western district of Virginia, in reference to his recent order usurping jurisdiction in a case in which the laws of the State had been broken, says he regrets that there should be any conflict of jurisdiction between the federal and the State courts, and thinks they ought to be avoided whenever possible. Notwithstanding such laudable sentiments, however, he deliberately attempts to subvert the whole judicial system of his State, though he knows that in the selection of juries the State judges are required to choose competent jurors, and that from the very nature of the case it is rarely easier to find such jurors among the white than among the colored people. Strange as it may appear, it seems really true that every native Virginian who has become a republican has also become an enemy to his own State and section. It can only be accounted for upon the ground of the law of human nature, that those hate us who have injured us.

The northern newspapers seem to be vastly concerned as to whether or not Mr. Devens is to remain in the Cabinet. Mr. Devens, like all Americans now a days, has ceased to look up on official position as so honor, or to regard it in any other view than as a means to acquire pelf. Acting upon this principle, he properly deems a lifelong position as U. S. circuit judge more profitable than two years more in the Cabinet, and as there is a vacancy in the U. S. judgeships now, but may not be at a later date, he exercises commendable prudence in desiring to secure it. It is of no consequence to the country at large whether he shall go out of the Cabinet or remain in it, for there is no man to believe that, bad as he is, a better man would be appointed to the vacancy.

Summers at Atlantic City and winters at New Orleans, for the Potter committee, at the cost of the people of the United States, who are taxed on their sugar and tobacco, and at most everything else they use, in order that the expenses of this and similar useless committees may be paid! As the committee has already used up the twenty thousand dollars appropriated to it, we trust an application for more may be rejected, and that if the members want to spend the holidays in New Orleans they do so with money out of their own pockets. They now get fifty five and a half dollars a day for their services, which is surely enough to pay the expenses of the trip.

**Not Guilty.**  
PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 12.—The jury in the case of John R. Nago and George W. Vickers, charged with knowingly receiving money embezzled from the West Philadelphia Passenger Railway Co., after being out since Saturday returned a verdict of "not guilty" this morning. The foreman said we find the defendant not guilty of appropriating the money, but guilty of a knowledge as charged in the bill of indictment. The judge then requested that the verdict be recorded formally when the foreman said not guilty.

This week's number of Little's Living Age has been received—as interesting as any of the preceding numbers of this excellent work.

#### News of the Week.

The fast train East on the Pennsylvania Railroad killed two men yesterday in a run of thirteen miles.

The Cocking Artillery wing of the republicans party of New York city and county were victorious Tuesday evening at the primary election.

The South Philadelphia M. E. Conference have adopted a report calling upon churches to provide unfurnished aid for sacramental purposes.

A convention of steamboat men was held at New York yesterday to appeal to Congress for relief from burdensome taxation upon commerce.

News has been received in New York that Mr. Henry Wells, the founder of Wells, Fargo & Co's express, died at Glasgow, Scotland, on Tuesday.

During November 5,852 immigrants arrived at New York. There arrived also 3,033 passengers, 2,612 of whom were citizens returning from abroad.

Ex-Gov. Andrew G. Curtin has served formal notice of contest on Seth H. Yeom, republican and national, for a seat in the next Congress from Pennsylvania.

The oil producers of Pennsylvania have been in council at Titusville for the purpose of combined action in the State Legislature against railroad discrimination.

In Boston five of twelve Aldermen, the street commissioner and all of the school committee are democrats, while the council stands 39 democrats to 33 republicans.

The Maine delegation in Congress are opposed to Attorney General Devens's nomination as the late Judge Shipley's successor, and claim that the office belongs to Maine.

At Portsmouth, N. H., Tuesday, Collector Howard seized several cases of choice liquors on board the United States steamship Guard. Some of the cases were directed to prominent naval officers.

J. C. Flood, John Mackay et al., pleaded the statute of limitations at San Francisco, yesterday, in the suits brought by Burke et al., stockholders in the California and Consolidated Virginia mines, for accounting for \$35,000,000.

The Judiciary Committee of the House will it is thought, present articles of impeachment against the United States District Judge Birdgett, of Illinois, who is charged with improperly interfering with the action of the grand jury.

A suit has been brought in the United States Court for the southern district of Illinois against the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad Company by certain stockholders to set aside the purchase of the Springfield and Illinois Southern Railroad.

In Boston yesterday, Edward Donovan, aged 17, murdered his brother in law, James H. Fox, aged 24. Donovan had interfered when Fox was chastising his child, a fight ensued, and after they were separated Donovan went off, got a knife, returned and plunged it into Fox's abdomen.

The amount of fractional currency outstanding is about \$16,000,000. It is estimated that at least \$12,000,000 of this amount will never be presented for redemption, it having been long destroyed by constant use. The Treasury now holds \$10,000,000 in legal tenders for the redemption of the fractional currency.

Ernest Moran, Dr. S. A. Surace, Jackson Board, James C. Johnson, Wm. R. Harr, et al., R. Roebel and Washington Cockfield, of Natchitoches, La., have been held in \$2,000 bail for trial, charged with kidnaping J. R. Horebby from giving his support to J. Madison Wells in the recent Congressional election. Horebby was making inflammatory speeches, and was told he must stop or quit the parish.

The trial of Mrs. Donson, Philip Vincent and William Newcomb for an attempt to kidnap and murder James Jones, was concluded at New Castle, Del., yesterday, the jury rendering a verdict of not guilty. The verdict was received with slight applause, which was instantly checked by the court. The prisoners were then released and received the congratulations of their friends, and they return home to night. The general feeling is that the verdict is in accord with the evidence, but many still believe Jones's story.

The House of Representatives on Tuesday passed, with two slight amendments, the Consular and Diplomatic bill, which appropriates \$1,038,435, being \$140,200 below the estimates. While the Committee of the Whole the salaries of the ministers at some of the courts were increased to the rates now paid, but rejected afterwards when brought up in the House. An amendment proposing the President to revise the fees of Consuls so as to make them conform to those of other consuls was included in the bill as passed. The House also passed, without a single amendment, the naval appropriation bill. The bill appropriates \$14,058,449, which is \$93,000 less than last year's appropriation. This makes four of the general appropriation bills that have already passed.

**ENTERING THE TOMBS A PRISONER.—LEAVING A HAPPY BRIDEGROOM.**—James McGee, a flashily dressed young man, about twenty three years old, was arraigned in the Court of Special Sessions to day, charged with assaulting Mary Smith, a girl sixteen years old. He pleaded guilty to the charge of assault, and it appearing that the young couple were in love, Justice Waddell asked McGee if he was willing to marry. He said he was, and the pastor of Danvers Church was sent for. McGee and Mary sitting side by side in the prison awaiting the arrival of the clergyman. The ceremony was performed in Matron Foster's office. After the marriage McGee was discharged from custody, and walked away with his wife. —M. Y. News.

**RICH SILVER DEPOSITS.**—New discoveries of rich silver deposits continue in the vicinity of Leadville, Colorado. Among the most remarkable is one made by Lieut. Gov. Tabor of a sand carbonate vein, from which \$5,700 were taken on Saturday. A future vein, a vast extent thick, is also reported. The Denver and Rio Grande Railroad transported from Leadville during November nearly 2,000,000 pounds base bullion and over 4,000,000 pounds high grade silver ore. The shipments from Colorado Springs alone in November of base silver bullion were 1,025,000 pounds. The production in the Leadville mines will largely exceed any estimates hitherto made.

**FREIGHT RATES.**—Railroad and steamship lines centering in New York are again slaughtering schedule rates on through freights. Last week the lowest through rates to be obtained in that city were 80 cents per 100 pounds, and this week they are as low as 60 to 65 cents per 100 pounds from Chicago to Liverpool. Steamer freights from New York and Boston to Europe are also being largely cut down. There are also reports in New York that local rates from the West are also being cut.

**Beer Intoxicating.**  
NEW HAVEN, Dec. 12.—In the city court today the case of Frederick Beckholz, charged with selling intoxicating liquor without a license was decided against the accused. The defense in the case was that the liquor sold was "schneck" beer and not intoxicating. The case has been before the court over a month, and nearly fifty witnesses, including medical and scientific experts, have testified that "schneck" beer was non-intoxicating. The State chemist, however, found the sample of beer to contain 9.85 of alcohol.

**COURT OF APPEALS.**—Yesterday, Wooten, assignee vs. Armat and als. Argued by Judge Goodrich for appellant, and St. George Fitzhugh for appellee.

#### Virginia News.

The residence of Gen. W. Bray, in Fredericksburg, was turned last night.

Mr. Alexander Vaughan, of Petersburg, Va., was shot in the head Monday evening by the accidental discharge of his pistol.

E. Carrington Cubill, a well known Richmond lawyer, slipped and fell on the pavement Monday evening, fracturing one of his ankles.

The hotel and improvement now being erected at the Faucquier White Sulphur Springs, to be ready by next season, will cost \$80,000.

A party of six hunters from Albemarle Co., on a four days' hunt in the North mountains, in Augusta Co., last week, succeeded in killing three deer.

Rev. George G. Brooks one of the oldest and most esteemed ministers of the Baltimore Conference, M. E. church South, died suddenly at his residence in Berryville, on Sunday, of paralysis.

The managers of the narrow gauge road at Fredericksburg have pledged from citizens of Middleburg and Green county to subscribe respectively fifty and thirty thousand dollars in bonds towards building the road to their county-house.

Among the patents recently granted are the following: Wilcox E. Jenkins and Charles W. Jenkins, Richmond, Va., plow; Peter H. Mayo and Thomas A. Kieness, Richmond, Va., removable covers for bed boxes; David Swartz, Woodstock, Va., bed bottoms.

The ceremonies of dedicating the monument erected in Hollywood Cemetery, in Richmond, to the memory of the late Dr. John Doye, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State, took place yesterday. The Knights Templar and all the Masonic lodges participated, and there was an immense crowd at the ceremony. An address was delivered by Grand Master B. Wellford, jr.

At an adjourned meeting of the stockholders of the Richmond and Danville Railroad, held in Richmond yesterday evening, all of the old officers of the company were re-elected. The net earnings of the road and its branches for the year ending September 30, 1878, were \$1,474,408, and the running expenses \$985,611. The increased earnings over last year are \$94,080.

The Virginia Dental Association is in session in Richmond. At yesterday's session there was a discussion as to cellulitis compared with rubber. A report on dental pathology, presented by Dr. Chewing, of Baltimore, was adopted. A report of Harrisburg, Pa., was fully discussed by Dr. Hunt and others, and finally adopted. The association will adjourn to day.

The voters of Highland Co., last week, in public meeting, adopted a resolution declaring that they had been misled by certain persons, who had been asked by authority, into voting a \$50,000 subscription to the Washington, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad Company; that the representations made have proved false; that they now consider that a swindle had been practiced upon them, and that they feel no moral obligation resting upon them to pay said subscription.

A singular accident occurred yesterday in Chesandale county, near the coal pits, by which a young colored girl lost her life. She retired rather precipitately from dinner, at which a rabbit pie had been served, and when found shortly after in an adjoining room was extended at full length in a chair and was evidently lifeless. A doctor was everlastingly summoned, but pronounced her death due to disease of the heart, but as the body was being made ready for burial it was discovered that her throat had been cut by a sharp rabbit bone, which protruded clear through the skin.

#### Washington Notes.

[Reported for the Alexandria Gazette.]  
The Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill that passed the House yesterday deprives Col. Mosby of a secretary and cuts his salary down to \$3,000. The Colonel, however, thinks it probable the Senate may correct what he really believes is a mistake. It is by no means improbable the Senate may amend the bill, and as the government receives about thirteen thousand dollars from the Honz Koog consulate, and hardly enough to pay the salaries of many of the three thousand dollar consuls, it is yet possible for the Colonel to have his salary increased. He has not been confirmed yet, but has no doubts of his confirmation.

It is supposed here now that before the close of the session Mr. Hewitt's bill, or a somewhat similar one, making silver dollars interchangeable with gold at the Treasury, will pass, and that subsidiary silver coin will be made redeemable at the Treasury in sums of \$100.

Should the bill prepared by Secretary Sherman and sent to Congress last Monday, with reference to the consolidation of customs districts be passed, some of the officers in the custom house in Alexandria are in danger, for the second section of the bill is as follows: "Sec. 253 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended so as to read as follows: The Secretary of the Treasury may discontinue any port of entry or delivery the revenue received at which does not amount to the sum of \$10,000 a year, and he is hereby authorized to consolidate two or more customs districts the revenue received in either of which does not exceed the sum before specified, and to place subordinate officers at such places within such consolidated districts as in his judgment may be necessary for the proper collection of the revenue from customs." As the customs at Alexandria have not reached ten thousand dollars for many years past, the custom house will, in case the bill shall become a law, pass into the hands of a surveyor and tide water, and be attached to some other district, probably Norfolk, at the request of the Georgetown custom house are even less than those of Alexandria.

The Judiciary Committee of the House, to whom was referred the famous Royal bill respecting the jurisdiction of federal courts, introduced last winter by Mr. Tucker at the request of Gen. Hinton, who had been requested to withdraw it by its author, Mr. Royall, of Richmond, has been referred to a subcommittee of one—Judge Harris, of Virginia.

Mr. Jorgensen, the republican member from Virginia, says that though some frauds were committed and some polls not opened in his district at the last election, the election was much fairer than in previous years, and that no resistance has been offered to U. S. officers in their arrest of the guilty parties. He also says that when the southern outrage investigation comes up in the House it will be his time to say something, but what that something is your correspondent does not know.

Mr. Claxton, of the Alexandria and Washington bar, hopes to have the bill allowing the claim of the owners of the Pioneer Mill in Alexandria, for the use of their property during the war, brought up again in the House this session. It was defeated in the House last session, but passed the Senate.

Judge Asby and Major Newman, of Luray, Va., have opened a law office in Washington.

A letter has been received here from Col. M. D. Bail, in which he states that he is enjoying not only every comfort, but even luxuries in Alaska.

The House of Representatives yesterday, by a vote of 139 to 101, passed the bill reported last year from the Committee on Commerce, to regulate interstate commerce. The Geneva award bill was then taken up and read.

In New York Saturday, in the case of O. E. Bradford, charged with causing the death of Sarah Victoria Connors, by criminal malpractice, the jury found him guilty, and he was remanded for sentence on Friday.

#### Letter from Richmond.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]  
RICHMOND, Dec. 11.—Some excitement was created in republican circles to night by the announcement that a caucus of rearjesters was being held somewhere. Diligent inquiry, however, elicited the fact that many prominent rearjesters knew nothing of it. It is generally understood that a caucus of the conservative members of the Legislature will be held to-morrow night, or at any rate some kind of caucus. What its object is no one knows. The members themselves are ignorant thereof.

The Committee on Elections to-day reported that the pay of the commissioners of elections be reduced to one dollar per day.

A petition was circulated in the Senate and House to-day, addressed to Senators Johnson and Withers, asking that Thos. P. Wallace, of Orange, be appointed acting assistant doorkeeper of the U. S. Senate. The petition was very generally signed.

The James River and Kanawha Canal Co. will receive an annual income from the water power along the canal of \$60,000. They receive that amount at present and will continue to receive it after the transfer to the Richmond and Alleghany Railroad Company is made.

Speaking of this canal company your correspondent is reminded that president Johnson is a man who suffers much on his account. He is certainly an earnest and indefatigable worker. Night before last when there were such heavy rains Mr. Johnson could not sleep, and when asked why, he said that heavy rains made him sick in two ways, first they gave him a severe attack of neuralgia, and second, they gave him a bad headache, because they made him see in his mind's eye the murky waters of the James washing high above their backs and overflowing the shaky sides of the canal. Richmonders are now so anxious to have the railroad on its banks that they are indifferent as to how much water leaks out.

Janusshok opened to a fine house at the theatre to night, and in the audience there were many members of the legislature.

The joint committee on printing failed to get a meeting to-day, and will meet to-morrow at four o'clock to investigate the charges against the Superintendent of Public Printing, R. E. Prayser.

The House adjourned early to-day as there was not much before it, and many members, being masters, desired to take part in the unveiling of the Dove monument.

#### Foreign News.

England is said to be negotiating for a protectorate over Constantinople and the occupation of several neighboring provinces.

The London Times speaks of Mr. Gladstone's speech as assuaging neither to his own reputation nor to the support of his opposition to the ministerial policy.

Sir Wm. Jenner, physician to Queen Victoria, has gone to Darmstadt to attend the Grand Duchess of Hesse, whose condition is reported more satisfactory.

A hitch has occurred in the negotiations between Turkey and Russia on account of Turkey insisting that Russia shall evacuate simultaneously with the surrender of the positions held to Montenegro. It is said that Russia regards the reconstruction of the Turkish ministry as favorable to the proposed definitive treaty.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies has rejected a vote of confidence in the Government to maintain order with liberty. A report that the Parliament would be dissolved is not correct.

It is said that Mahmud Damad Pasha and others banished from Turkey had conspired to dethrone the Sultan.

The English Parliament will probably adjourn next Tuesday.

A reorganization of the French Cabinet is mooted.

The Danish government has empowered the Governor of Santa Cruz to grant administrative loans, not exceeding 500,000 crowns, for the purpose of restoring the sugar plantations.

The statement that the Spanish government has proposed to Germany collective anti-social measures is denied at Madrid.

The rindapest has made its appearance in the neighborhood of Berlin.

PARIS, Dec. 12.—The appointment of Admiral Jaurès as ambassador to Spain is announced to-day in the official Gazette.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—The story continued in the B. Rio dispatch to the St. Petersburg News Times to the effect that the confidential communication from Germany referred to by Mr. Bourke in the British House of Commons recently, was a proposal that England should assume a protectorate over Constantinople and occupy certain neighboring positions as the price for permitting the unification of Bulgaria and Roumelia is intrinsically improbable.

It is also at variance with the official note from St. Petersburg, stating that reconstruction of the Turkish ministry was favorable to the progress of the negotiations for a definitive treaty, and that Russia only desires a full and complete peace in conformity with the treaty of Berlin. This note declares that the fact that Russia urges the execution of the treaty of Berlin is proof that it has no wish for any obscurities or any new arrangements, but only for a full and complete peace with Turkey in conformity with that treaty.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—Edward O'Kelly, the last Fenian prisoner, is to be released before Christmas. His friends are endeavoring to gain him permission for him to reside in Great Britain.

ROME, Dec. 12.—King Humbert has summoned Signor Depressi to advise with him concerning the formation of a new Ministry.

PARIS, Dec. 12.—Gustavo Rouland, the French statesman, is dead.

#### Virginia Legislature.

The Senate was not in session yesterday having adjourned over for the day to attend the unveiling of the Dove monument.

In the House of Delegates bills, &c., were introduced and referred to amend an act in regard to criminal procedure, to amend an act to provide for working and keeping in order the roads of the Commonwealth, to secure to tax payers in cities the right of public school education for their children; to amend the Code in relation to appeals on bonds.

Petition of citizens of Alexandria in relation to Alexandria assessment bill; in relation to assessment of real property for purposes of municipal taxation in the city of Alexandria, &c.; petition of the Monticello Wine Company and others interested in growing grapes and the manufacture of native or domestic wines, asking that the "Moffett liquor law" be so modified as to exempt native wines from taxation; for the protection of the institutions of the State, public trusts and funds; petition of the members of the bar of Pulaski, asking that the summer term of the Circuit Court be abolished; that the Committee on Constitutional Amendments inquire into the expediency of having quadrennial sessions of the Legislature, fixing the Governor's salary at \$3,000, and establishing the magistrical system for county courts, &c., were also referred.

Bills were reported from committees to amend the 5th section, chapter 33, Code of 1873, in regard to the delivery of lists of delinquent lands to treasurers, and to amend the Code with reference to the pay of commissioners of elections.

Bills were passed for the relief of the sureties of John Huddleston, late collector of Central township, Rockingham, and in relation to the terms of office of circuit judges.

Mr. Garrett was yesterday re-elected President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company.

#### From Washington.

[SPECIAL TO THE ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 12.  
In the House to-day Mr. Wood, of New York, introduced a resolution providing for the investigation of the conduct of John A. Davenport, supervisor of elections in New York, but the republicans, headed by Mr. Garfield, successfully resisted it, and it went over until to-morrow. Mr. Wood remarking that the republicans were opposed to investigation.

The Senate, at an early hour, on motion of Mr. Windom, took up the fortification bill, to the entire disgust of Mr. Blaine, who wanted the Hot Springs bill taken up first, and who manifested his displeasure by some curt and supercilious remarks to Mr. Windom about the manner in which he, Windom, as chairman of the Appropriation Committee, conducted the business of that committee. The bill was passed and amended by increasing the appropriation \$225,000.

In the House to-day an amendment to the resolution on the length of the holiday recess, providing that recess shall continue from the 19th inst. to the 8th prox., was defeated, and the resolution, as adopted, provides that the recess shall last from the 20th inst. to the 6th prox. In the debate on this resolution Mr. Wood said there was no necessity for limiting the recess, as the House had already passed four appropriation bills, and by to-morrow night would probably have passed two more, so almost unprecedented instances of rapid legislation, and which would give the House plenty of time to transact its other business after a long recess.

In the House the General award bill was taken up and debated. Mr. Willis, of New York, leading off.

The friends of the reduction of the tobacco tax are not at all sanguine in their hopes of favorable legislation at this session. This relief asked for days on end in the shape of a separate bill, but is included in a general bill, which, it is supposed will need no small degree of tact to pass.

In the Senate the Memphis levee bill came up and was supported by Mr. Eississ, who maintained that the Federal Government having proprietary authority over the Mississippi river, was bound by its obligations of ownership to keep its banks in order.

In the Senate, during the debate on the Hot Springs bill, which was participated in by Messrs. Hill, Garland, Beck and others, Mr. Beck took the ground that it should be postponed in order that some amendment might be made to it to prevent a repetition of the possible fraud by which it had been excluded from the Journal of the last session.

There is much ground to hope that the money lent the Government by the State of Virginia for the war of 1812 will be repaid by this or even the next Congress. The untimely fall of the William and Mary College last year is looked upon as an unfavorable augury for the successful issue of any bill intended to afford pecuniary relief to individuals or States in the South. The House has already adopted a resolution for the purpose of authorizing the payment of "rebels claims" and it is feared that it will repudiate her just claims, though for money lent the Government during its recent distresses in 1812, will be so twisted by the radicals as to appear in the eyes of their constituents a "rebels claim" and be to the disadvantage of the South in the next Presidential election. If these ideas prevail, even should efforts be made in the next Congress to secure for Virginia what is due her, they will probably fail of successful accomplishment.

The bill now in the Senate to amend the presidential election laws will probably linger there some time, as most of the Senators desire to express their views upon it. Probably every Senator is in favor of some amendment, but it is doubtful if at the present time any bill that might be introduced would receive more support than that of Mr. Edmunds, now under consideration.

Senator Johnson of Virginia, would like to speak on the bill, but his health is yet too feeble to permit him. Mr. Edmunds' bill does not designate the State Court that shall decide upon contested presidential election returns, nor does it make it obligatory upon the undesignated court to decide upon the correctness of the returns previous to the sending of those returns to the president of the Senate. Amendments to secure these two provisions should, in the opinion of Mr. Johnson, be made to Mr. Edmunds' bill in order to place the sending of a contested return to the Senate beyond a peradventure, as the Senator believes that the federal Congress has nothing to do with presidential elections except to count them.

It is believed here that the proposition of the foreign bondholders to compromise the Virginia debt will be accepted, as by it the State will save six hundred thousand dollars a year in interest.

It is also believed here that the legislature of Virginia will agree to the transfer of the James River and Kanawha Canal to the Richmond and Alleghany Railroad Company, as the canal is now really worthless, and that even if it were extended to a point that would increase its freightage to a paying rate, the whole eastern portion of it would have to be widened.

Mr. Blaine's speech, yesterday, among the democrats, is not thought much of, and it has not put the republicans in ecstasies.

#### General Grant.

The New York Herald's correspondent at Pau telegraphs that General Grant has been spending several days at that pleasant winter resort and will return to the French capital to-morrow. He has accepted the offer of President Hayes to go to India on the United States corvette Richmond. The President's offer was made in the most flattering terms. General Grant will embark on the Richmond about Christmas (probably at Marseilles), and will proceed thence to India through the Suez Canal, landing at Bombay. A journey will be made as far inland as Poonah. The Richmond will touch at Ceylon, and the General will visit the Kandey, in the center of the island. From Ceylon the Richmond will proceed through the Straits of Malacca to Siam, and General Grant will pay his respects to the King at Bangkok. The voyage will then continue to the ports of China, thence to Japan, and afterwards to the Sandwich Islands. Perhaps Australia may be visited, but it is not yet included in the plan. General Grant expects to arrive in San Francisco about May.

After a short stay on the Pacific coast, during which he will visit Oregon, General Grant will begin his eastward journey. He will visit the Bonanza mining region, and will pass some days in Colorado. He hopes to reach his home at Long Branch about the latter end of June. Letters and dispatches received from the East say that the deepest interest is felt in General Grant's coming. Mrs. Grant will accompany her husband throughout his journey.

NASHVILLE'S DEBT.—Two years ago Mr. Phelps commenced the compromise of the debt of the city of Nashville, amounting to \$6,000,000 of fifty cents on the dollar. Since then \$2,000,000 of bonds have been funded at that rate. The holders of the remaining portion of the debt have refused to accept this compromise, and from time to time are forcing special levies by mandamus for the payment of interest on dollar bonds of the debt. Lending officers of the city assert that this burden is intolerable, and that unless these holders of the city securities shall come to the same terms as those who graciously accepted the fifty cent compromise, she will be forced to ask the Legislature to cancel her charter and place her affairs in the hands of a receiver, which action will completely ruin the city. She has not yet decided upon any settlement whatever. One reason given as to why the city cannot pay the whole debt is that her streets, which are in a dreadful condition, must be repaired to enable her to receive the money, and to provide the means to prevent a possible return of yellow fever next year.

BLACK SILKS! BLACK SILKS!—Elegant quality and very cheap just opened at  
dec 10-1w ISAAC EICHBERG'S.

**Seven Drinks in Pekin.**  
Which seems may be true and may be a lie. How Grant will meet Mosby in the street by and by, in Pekin. But I say all the name. And my statement is square. That Mosby and Grant are fond of a tare. Now this Mosby and Grant will meet in Pekin. In the land of Johnny Wah Koo; They will order their rum. And they'll call for cigars. And they'll call for a hot rat stew.

Then Mosby and Grant will join in a song, Which the same I swear is not new; For the song they will sing, between drinks in Pekin. (And mark you the drinks are not few.) Is you tickle me and I'll tickle you. —Boston Post.

#### A Young Lady Shoots Another.

On Monday, November 11th there appeared in the Bulletin an account of the reported accidental shooting of Miss Ella Hearn by her friend and constant companion, Miss Lilly Dear. The shooting is said to have occurred on Tuesday of the preceding week at Portsmouth City, Worcester county, Md. On Monday of this week Miss Dear, it is now said, mysteriously disappeared from Portsmouth City, and has not been heard of since. Miss Dear, at the time, gave the following explanation of the affair: "She said that she and her friend had been sitting in the front room chatting, when arising from her feet she asked Miss Hearn to take a walk with her. Miss Hearn replied that her mother was sick, and that she would be unable to accompany her, as she had household duties to attend to. Miss Hearn then walked with her friend toward the door, and, holding a pistol carelessly in front of her, remarked, in a playful tone, 'Look out, Ella, I'm going to shoot you.' As she made this remark her hand, she said, came in contact with the trigger of the pistol, accidentally causing it to go off. The full contents of the pistol struck Miss Hearn in the mouth, the ball lodging in the head." The wounded girl became unconscious, and for a long time her life was despaired of. While in this unconscious state, Miss Hearn is said to have accused Miss Dear of shooting her intentionally. As soon as this became publicly known all sorts of wild and vague rumors were set afloat. Mr. Hearn, it is said, was advised by his friends to bring the case before the grand jury, and only awaits the result of his daughter's injuries to take some action in the matter. It is alleged that Miss Dear, who is described as a dashing young lady of handsome appearance, became jealous of Miss Hearn's friendship for another young lady. The two girls, Miss Dear and Hearn, were nearly always together, and when the third young lady became intimate with them Miss Dear feared that she would supplant her in Miss Hearn's affections. This version of the affair has spread all over the town, and is now generally believed. There are many,